

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for recording operations in a computer environment, said method  
2 comprising:  
3 saving initial conditions of said computer environment, said initial  
4 conditions corresponding to an initial state of said computer environment; and  
5 recording user inputs to said computer environment to produce a  
6 recorded session of said operations in said computer environment.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said saving includes saving positional changes  
2 of a cursor in said computer environment.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said saving includes saving said initial  
2 conditions of said computer environment in a first computer file, and wherein said  
3 recording includes saving said user inputs to said computer environment in a second  
4 computer file.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said recording includes recording positional  
2 information of said user inputs in said computer environment relative to a screen on  
3 which said computer environment is being displayed.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said recording includes recording timing  
2 information of said user inputs.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising editing said initial conditions of  
2 said computer environment after said initial conditions have been saved.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising editing said user inputs to said  
2 computer environment after said user inputs have been saved.

1     8.     The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2             assigning said recorded session to a graphic control device such that  
3     said recorded session is replayed when said graphic control device is activated; and  
4             embedding said graphic control device in an electronic document.

1     9.     The method of claim 1 further comprising replaying said recorded session in a  
2     replay computer environment using said user inputs such that said replay computer  
3     environment is actively operated by said user inputs to replay said recorded session in  
4     said replay computer environment.

1     10.    The method of claim 9 wherein said replaying includes configuring said  
2     replay computer environment using said initial conditions to a state that is  
3     substantially identical to said initial state of said computer environment.

1     11.    The method of claim 10 further comprising creating said replay computer  
2     environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which replay of said  
3     recorded session has been initiated.

1     12.    The method of claim 11 wherein said creating includes positioning said replay  
2     computer environment over said current computer environment.

1     13.    The method of claim 9 wherein said replaying includes selectively delaying  
2     said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each of said  
3     user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can be  
4     processed.

1 14. A method for replaying recorded computer operations, said method  
2 comprising:  
3 loading recorded initial conditions of a recorded computer  
4 environment into a replay computer environment such that the state of said replay  
5 computer environment is substantially equivalent to an initial state of said recorded  
6 computer environment when said recorded computer operations were recorded; and  
7 applying recorded user inputs to said replay computer environment in  
8 said state to actively operate said replay computer environment as a replay of said  
9 recorded computer operations.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein said applying includes applying recorded  
2 positional changes of a cursor.

1 16. The method of claim 14 further comprising creating said replay computer  
2 environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which replay of said  
3 recorded session has been initiated.

1 17. The method of claim 14 wherein said creating includes positioning said replay  
2 computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 18. The method of claim 14 wherein said applying includes selectively delaying  
2 some of said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each  
3 of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can  
4 be processed.

1 19. The method of claim 14 further comprising displaying a graphic  
2 representation of a control device to illustrate one or more of said recorded user  
3 inputs.

1 20. A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of  
2 instructions executable by said computer to perform method steps for recording and  
3 replaying operations in a computer environment, said method steps comprising:  
4 saving initial conditions of said computer environment, said initial  
5 conditions corresponding to an initial state of said computer environment; and  
6 recording user inputs to said computer environment to produce a  
7 recorded session of said operations in said computer environment.

1 21. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said saving includes saving  
2 positional changes of a cursor in said computer environment.

1 22. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said saving includes saving said  
2 initial conditions of said computer environment in a first computer file, wherein said  
3 recording includes saving said user inputs to said computer environment in a second  
4 computer file.

1 23. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said recording includes recording  
2 positional information of said user inputs in said computer environment relative to a  
3 screen on which said computer environment is being displayed.

1 24. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said recording includes recording  
2 timing information of said user inputs.

1 25. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising editing said initial  
2 conditions of said computer environment after said initial conditions have been saved.

1 26. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising editing said user inputs to  
2 said computer environment after said user inputs have been saved.

- 1 27. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising:  
2 assigning said recorded session to a graphic control device such that  
3 said recorded session is replayed when said graphic control device is activated; and  
4 embedding said graphic control device in an electronic document.
- 1 28. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising replaying said recorded  
2 session in a replay computer environment using said user inputs such that said replay  
3 computer environment is actively operated by said user inputs to replay said recorded  
4 session in said computer environment.
- 1 29. The storage medium of claim 28 wherein said replaying includes configuring  
2 said replay computer environment using said initial conditions to a state that is  
3 substantially identical to said initial state of said computer environment.
- 1 30. The storage medium of claim 29 further comprising creating said replay  
2 computer environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which  
3 replay of said recorded session has been initiated.
- 1 31. The storage medium of claim 30 wherein said creating includes positioning  
2 said replay computer environment over said current computer environment.
- 1 32. The storage medium of claim 28 wherein said replaying includes selectively  
2 delaying said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each  
3 of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can  
4 be processed.

1 33. A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of  
2 instructions executable by said computer to perform method steps for replaying  
3 recorded computer operations, said method comprising:  
4 loading recorded initial conditions of a recorded computer  
5 environment into a replay computer environment such that state of said replay  
6 computer environment is substantially equivalent to an initial state of said recorded  
7 computer environment when said recorded computer operations were recorded; and  
8 applying recorded user inputs to said replay computer environment in  
9 said state to actively operate said replay computer environment as a replay of said  
10 recorded computer operations.

1 34. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said applying includes applying  
2 recorded positional changes of a cursor.

1 35. The storage medium of claim 33 further comprising creating said replay  
2 computer environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which  
3 replay of said recorded session has been initiated.

1 36. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said creating includes positioning  
2 said replay computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 37. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said applying includes selectively  
2 delaying some of said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such  
3 that each of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user  
4 inputs can be processed.

1 38. The storage medium of claim 33 further comprising displaying a graphic  
2 representation of a control device to illustrate one or more of said recorded user  
3 inputs.